THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) to (c) The quantity of tobacco auctioned and the unit value realised during this year and the corresponding figures in the preceding two years are given below:—

Andhra Pradesh
(End of 20th week of auction)

Year	Quantity Marketed (M. Kgs.)	Average Price (Rs./Kg.)
1991	89.17	33.00
1992	121.01	28.28
1993	122.37	20.97

Karnataka

Year	Quantity Marketed (M. Kgs.)	Average Price (Rs./Kg.)
1990	20.31	26.44
1991-92	26.41	42.13
1992-93	33.24	26.52

Imposition of Levy on the Sale of Cigarettes

528. DR. YELAMANCHILI SHIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government have received any representations to impose Levy on the sale of cigarettes and to create Market Stabilising Fund for tobacco; and

(b) if so, what are the details thereof and what action Government have taken in this regard?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) Yes, Sir.

(b) The Andhra Pradesh State Tobacco Ryots All Party Action Committee submitted a Memorandum dated 13-4-93 representing inter-alia to impose a levy of 1% sur-charge on sale of cigarettes and to utilise the amount collected as market stabilisation fund for tobacco. The proposal is being examined by Government.

Removal of M.E.P. for Export of Tobacco

529. DR. YELAMANCHILI SHIVAJI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that M.E.P. was removed for export of tobacco;

(b) if so, what are the reasons therefor; and

(c) what is its impact on the exports?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUDDIN AHMED): (a) and (b) M.E.P. for FCV tobacco has been abolished as a measure of trade liberalisation.

(c) It is too early to assess the impact of abolition of MEP on exports.

Export of Marine Products

530. SHRI MENTAY PADMANABHAM: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to refer to the answer to Unstarred Question 709 given in the Rajya Sabha on 3rd May, 1993 and state:

(a) whether MPEDA has conducted any study on how to achieve maximum potential of marine exports by full utilisation of ill and sick deep sea fishing vessels;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) what would be the increase in export of marine production in case of our country's ill deep sea fishing vessels were used optimally; and

(d) whether MPEDA is formulating any schemes to achieve the objective?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL SUPPLIES, CONSUMER AFFAIRS AND PUBLIC DISTRIBUTION WITH ADDITIONAL CHARGE OF THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (SHRI KAMALUD-